

APA



What is American Psychological Association (APA) Style?

APA Style is used primarily in the social sciences—psychology, sociology, nursing, family studies, etc. It places emphasis on the date of publication, whereas other styles (MLA, for example) emphasize the page number.

APA Style is a parenthetical documentation style. This means it uses in-text citation. Two pieces of information must always be included in the in-text citations: **1. The first author's last name and 2. the date of publication.** If quoting directly from a source, however, **the page number must also be included.** The information contained in parentheses is separated by commas.

eg: (Smith, 2000) or (Smith, 2000, p.23)

In-Text Citations

There are several ways to integrate APA citations into your text. In any case, it is important to cite the authors for their ideas. Options for citation include:

1.) Place the author(s) and date(s) in parentheses at an appropriate place in or at the end of a sentence.

eg: Researchers have studied how children represent mathematical problems (Alibali, Phillips, & Fischer, 2009; Siegler, 1976).

2.) Include the names of the researcher(s) in the sentence. Place only the date in parentheses.

eg: Fisher (1999) recommended that health education be required for high school graduation in Florida. Smith and Jones (2004) suggest that health education be mandated by the federal government as a graduation requirement.

3.) Integrate the author and the date into your sentence.

eg: In 2001, Weist proposed using the Child and Adolescent Planning Schema to analyze and develop community mental health programs for young people.

4.) When citing a direct quotation, include the page numbers as follows:

eg: Lopez (1993) found that “the effect disappeared within minutes” (p. 311).

5.) When citing a secondary source only the secondary reference goes in the reference list.

eg: Racial injustice is one of the ecological risk factors for child psychopathology, according to Coie et al. (as cited in Greenbert, Domitrovich, & Bumbarger, 2000).

Notes:

-If your text is written by two authors, list both names in every citation. If there are 3-5 authors, list all for the first use, then abbreviate to “first author et. al.” for subsequent citations.

eg: (Smith, Nelson, Jones, & Sawyer, 2004) and subsequently (Smith et al., 2004)

-When writing about an event that occurred in the past, use the past tense (e.g., Smith showed). For an event that is continuous, the present perfect tense is used (e.g., Smith has shown). When results are given, the present tense is used (e.g., the experiment demonstrates).

Formatting (Title Page, Headings, etc.)

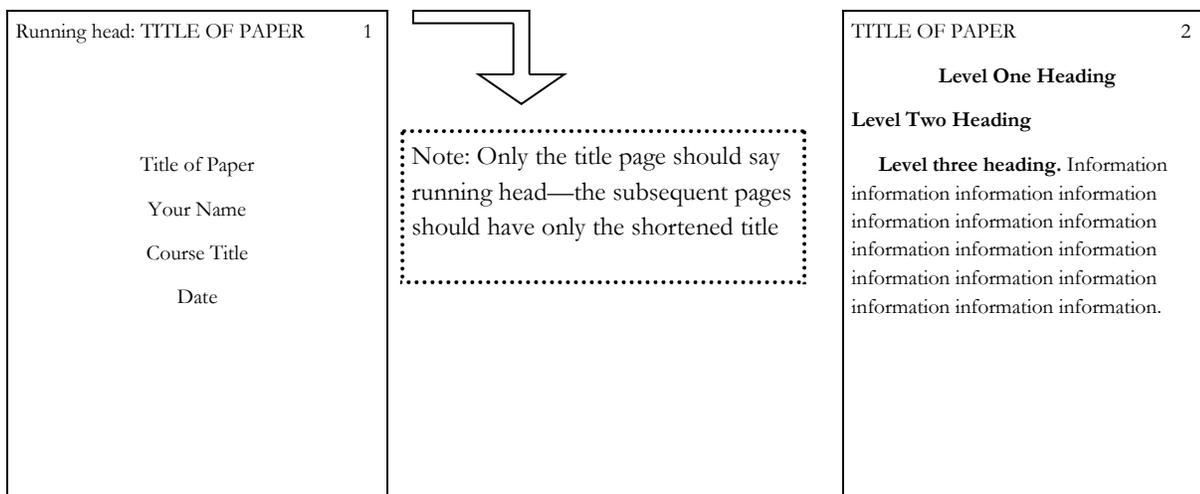
Title Page: Unless you receive other instructions, make the first page of your paper a title page. The APA Manual doesn't give instructions for the title page of a class paper; the contents and placement of items on the sample title page below are adapted from APA instructions for the title page of a paper to be submitted for publication.

Margins: Use uniform margins at least 1 in. from the top, bottom, and sides of every page.

Spacing: Double-space all text throughout the manuscript, including the title page and reference page.

Page Numbering: Starting with the title page, place consecutive page numbers at the upper right-hand corner of the page.

Running Head: Include a page header (also known as the "running head") at the top of every page. To create a page header/running head, insert page numbers flush right. Then type "TITLE OF YOUR PAPER" in the header flush left using all capital letters. The running head is a shortened version of your paper's title and cannot exceed 50 characters including spacing and punctuation.



Formatting the References List

Title: Type the word "References" at the top of the page, centered. Do not bold, italicize or underline.

Spacing: All entries should be double-spaced, unless your assignment instructs you otherwise.

Indentation: If an entry is longer than one line, use a hanging indent on the second line.

Capitalization: Capitalize only the first word of titles of books and articles. If there is a subtitle, capitalize the first word after the colon. Always capitalize proper nouns—for example the name of a city or person. **Ex:** *Meditation in New York public schools: Facts, myths, and future prospects.*

Organization: All entries should be alphabetized by authors' last names.

Sample Reference Entries for Print Sources

Book with a single author:

Author's last name, first initial. (Year of publication). *Title of work: Capital letter for subtitle.* Location: Publisher.

eg: Baxter, C. (1997). *Race equality in health care and education.* Philadelphia: Balliere Tindall.

Books with two to six authors:

List all authors by last names and initials; separate the authors names with commas. The last author name should be preceded by an ampersand (&).

eg: Kernis, M. H., Cornell, D. P., Sun, C. R., Berry, A., Harlow, T., & Bach, J. S. (1993). There's more to self-esteem than whether it is high or low: The importance of stability of self-esteem. Chicago: Chicago University Press.

Books with more than six authors:

List the first six authors by last names and initials, followed by an ellipsis (...) then the name of the last author in the listing.

eg: Miller, F. H., Choi, M. J., Angeli, L. L., Harland, A. A., Stamos, J. A., Thomas, S. T., . . . Rubin, L. H. (2009). Web site usability for the blind and low-vision user. Chicago: Chicago University Press.

Book with editors in place of authors:

Authors' last names & first initials (Eds.). (Year of publication). *Title of work: Capital letter for subtitle.* Location: Publisher.

eg: Stock, G., and Campbell, J. (Eds.). (2000). *Engineering the human genome: An exploration of the science and ethics of altering the genes we pass to our children.* New York, NY, USA: Oxford University Press.

Chapter in an edited work:

Author of chapter. (Year of publication). Chapter title. In Name(s) of editor(s) (Eds.). *Title of larger work.* (Edition information, pages of chapter). Location: Publisher.

eg: Roy, A. (1995). Psychiatric emergencies. In H.I. Kaplan & B.J. Sadock (Eds.). *Comprehensive textbook of Psychiatry.* (6th ed., pp. 1739-1752). Baltimore, MD: Williams & Wilkins.

Journal article:

Author of article. (Year of publication). Title of article: Capital letter for subtitle. *Title of journal, volume number,* issue, pages of article.

eg: Roy, A. (1982). Suicide in chronic schizophrenia. *British Journal of Psychiatry,* 141, 171-177.

Sample Reference Entries for Digital Sources

Notes: At a minimum, the reference for an internet source should provide a document title or description, a date (the date of publication or the date of retrieval), and the DOI (digital object identifier) or URL. APA prefers the use of DOI if available.

Article From an Online Periodical with DOI Assigned:

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Date of publication). Title of article. *Title of Journal, volume number*, page range. doi:0000000/000000000000 or <http://dx.doi.org/10.0000/0000>

Brownlie, D. (2007). Toward effective poster presentations: An annotated bibliography. *European Journal of Marketing, 41*, 1245-1283. doi:10.1108/03090560710821161

Article From an Online Periodical with No DOI Assigned: Online scholarly journal articles without a DOI require the URL of the journal home page. Remember that one goal of citations is to provide your readers with enough information to find the article; providing the journal home page aids readers in this process.

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Date of publication). Title of article. *Title of Journal, volume number*. Retrieved from <http://www.journalhomepage.com/full/url/>

Kenneth, I. A. (2000). A Buddhist response to the nature of human rights. *Journal of Buddhist Ethics, 8*. Retrieved from <http://www.cac.psu.edu/jbe/twocont.html>

Article from a Database:

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Date of publication). Title of article. *Title of Journal, volume number*, page range. Retrieved from <http://www.someaddress.com/full/url/>

Smyth, A. M., Parker, A. L., & Pease, D. L. (2002). A study of enjoyment of peas. *Journal of Abnormal Eating, 8* (3), 120-125. Retrieved from <http://www.articlehomepage.com/full/url/>

Nonperiodical Web Document, Web Page, or Report:

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Date of publication). *Title of document*. Retrieved from <http://Web address>

Angeli, E., Wagner, J., Lawrick, E., Moore, K., Anderson, M., Soderland, L., & Brizee, A. (2010, May 5). *General format*. Retrieved from <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

Connors Writing Center Dimond Library 329 . UNH . writing.center@unh.edu 603-862-3272

This page was adapted from:

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th edition, the UW-Madison Writing Center Online

<<http://www.wisc.edu/writing/handbook/docAPA.html>>, Diana Hacker's *A Writer's Reference*, 6th edition, and the Purdue Online Writing Lab

<<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/>>.